

RULES OF THE HOUSE

AND

JOINT RULES OF BOTH HOUSES

OF THE

SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF TEXAS,

CONVENED NOVEMBER 5, 1856.

AUSTIN:

PRINTED AT THE STATE-GAZETTE OFFICE.

1856.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

The committee on Rules, through their Chairman, J. W. DANCY, recommended the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Rules of the House of Representatives as amended, be adopted, and that two hundred copies be printed for the use of the House—which was adopted.

but nothing shall be paid for traveling home, when the witness has been summoned at the place of trial.

74. In all cases not provided for in the foregoing rules, Jefferson's Manual shall govern.

JOINT RULES OF THE TWO HOUSES.

Disagreements between the two Houses.

1. In every case of an amendment of a bill agreed to in one House and dissented to in the other, if either House shall request a Conference, and appoint a committee for that purpose, and the other House shall appoint a committee to confer, such committees shall, at a convenient hour, to be agreed on by their chairmen, meet in their conference chamber, and state to each other verbally, or in writing, as either shall chose, the reasons of their respective Houses for and against the amendment, and confer freely thereon.

2. After each House shall have adhered to their disagreement, a bill or resolution is lost.

3. When a bill or resolution which shall have passed in one House is rejected in the other, notice thereof is to be given to the House in which the same may have passed.

Communication between the two Houses.

4. When a message shall be sent from the Senate to the House of Representatives, it shall be announced at the door of the House by the Doorkeeper, and shall be respectfully communicated to the chair, by the person by whom it may be sent.

5. The same ceremony shall be observed, when a message shall be sent from the House of Representatives to the Senate.

6. Messages shall be sent by such persons as a sense of propriety, in each House, may determine to be proper.

7. While bills are on their passage between the two Houses, they shall be on paper, and under the signature of the Secretary or Clerk of each House, respectively.

8. Each House transmits to the other all papers on which any bill or resolution shall be founded.

Enrolling and Signing of Bills and Resolutions, and their Presentation to the Governor.

9. After a bill shall have passed both Houses, it shall be duly enrolled on paper by the Clerk of the House of Representatives, or of the Senate, as the bill may have originated in the one or the other House, before it shall be presented to the Governor.

10. When bills are enrolled, they shall be examined by a joint committee of three from the Senate and three from the House of Representatives, appointed as a standing committee for that purpose, who shall carefully compare the enrolment with the engrossed bills, as passed in the House, and correcting any errors that may be discovered in the enrolled bills, make their report forthwith to the respective Houses.

11. After examination and report, each bill shall be signed in the respective Houses—first by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, then by the President of the Senate.

12. After a bill shall have been thus signed in each House, it shall be presented by said committees to the Governor for his approbation—it being first endorsed on the back of the roll, certifying in which House the same originated; which endorsement shall be signed by the Secretary or Clerk (as the case may be) of the House in which the same did originate, and shall be entered on the Journal of each House. The said committee shall report the day of presentation to the Governor, which time shall be carefully entered on the Journal of each House.

13. All orders, resolutions and votes, which are to be presented to the Governor of the State for his approbation, shall also in the same manner be previously enrolled, examined and signed; and shall be presented in the same manner, and by the same committee, as provided in the case of bills.

Elections by Joint Vote of the two Houses.

14. In all elections by joint vote of the two Houses of the Legislature, the Senate will, upon invitation, meet the House in the Hall at the hour agreed upon. The President of the Senate shall take a seat at the right of the Speaker, and the Senators shall take seats in front of the Speaker's desk. The Speaker of the House shall preside. The names of the Senators shall then be alphabetically called; after which, the names of the Representatives shall be called in like manner; and if a quorum of both Houses answer to their names, the two Houses will proceed with the business for which they have met. The President of the Senate shall first call for nominations by Senators, and the Speaker of the House shall then call for nominations by Representatives: Nominations being made, the names of the Senators shall be

called by their Secretary, and their votes recorded by him; the names of the Representatives shall then be called by their Clerk, and their votes recorded by him; and the result shall be handed to and announced by the Speaker. Should a majority be required to elect, and no person receive a majority, the voting shall be repeated until an election is made. After the conclusion of the election for which the two Houses have met in joint session, the Senate shall retire to its Chamber, and the result of the joint vote shall be entered on the Journal of each House.

15. If a quorum of either House shall fail to attend a joint session, or absent themselves therefrom, without the permission of such House, the members of the House so wanting a quorum, if ten in number, shall have the right to compel the attendance of the absentees, in accordance with its own rules; and after a reasonable time, if a quorum is not obtained, the joint session may be adjourned by the vote of a majority of the members of either House; which vote shall be taken by the presiding officer of either House, on the motion of any one of its members, without debate.

16. If no choice shall have been made on the first ballot or vote, at any time thereafter, the joint session may be adjourned with or without naming another day for meeting, by the vote of the majority of either House; which vote shall be taken by the presiding officer of either House, on the motion of any one of its members, without debate.